

Around the Regions

JOHN J. DOMMERS, NEW ENGLAND REGION

As of June 1, 1976, John J. Dommers, Director of the Norma Terris Humane Education Center in East Haddam, Connecticut, is the New England Regional Director. His plans include expanding communications with members, forming a regional humane educators association, and stepping up major cruelty investigations. The retiring Director, Admiral James Shaw, was recently honored at a testimonial dinner.

Over a year ago The New Haven (Conn.) Police Department attempted to transfer its animal control program to the Park and Recreation Department. HSUS helped to stop this senseless move. This year the police transferred its animal control program to the Public Health Department and tried to reassign its highly competent and humane animal control officer to a squad car. Because of the action of the regional office and HSUS members, the mayor is strongly considering retaining the officer.



Charlene Drennon



John W. Inman



Douglas M. Scott

CHARLENE DRENNON, WEST COAST REGION

A Humane Hotline has been set up on the west coast for the use of local animal welfare organizations. The locals can get help on any problem by making one call to the regional office. They can also use this service to get immediate information to other local societies around the region. HSUS will use the hotline to let societies know of regulations that affect them or humane issues needing immediate attention. If your society is not on the hotline, let them know about this available free service. It's a humane communication first!

On October 1 and 2, the region will hold a leadership workshop in Vancouver, Washington. Make reservations through the regional office.

Congratulations to Betty Denny Smith, named head L.A. County Animal Control Division.

JOHN W. INMAN, GREAT LAKES REGION

The Michigan State Senate passed bill 1389 making dogfighting a felonious crime. Director J. Inman provided testimony in support of this bill.

A workshop "Perspectives in Animal Welfare" will be held September 19 in Mount Pleasant, Michigan. Shortly before this event, Inman will be a panel-

ist at a workshop on September 16 designed for training members of the Illinois State Animal Control Officers Association. Inman has consulted with the Director of Rabies Control for Cook County, Illinois regarding the revision of their animal control ordinance.

BURTON PARKS, SOUTHERN AREA

Director Parks was closely involved in what may be the first Easter bunny conviction in the country. The case was brought about by the Animal Rescue and Welfare League in Johnson City, Tennessee against the Pet Luv Company for selling rabbits under the age of 8 weeks. When police said they could not enforce the City's Easter chick and rabbit ordinance because no one on the force was capable of proving a rabbit's age, Parks suggested to the lawyer and the local society that it should be the responsibility of the Pet Luv Company to prove the rabbits were over two months of age and that a vet and or breeder should examine the rabbits and serve as a witness. Although Pet Luv got off with a mere \$100 fine, the League's persistence and success in this case will undoubtedly deter future violators.

DOUGLAS M. SCOTT, GULF STATES REGION

Director Scott and Field Representative Bernard Weller recently conducted a series of membership meetings and training sessions for animal control employees throughout Texas and in Oklahoma City. Weller was assisted by HSUS member Cile Davis in investigating inhumane conditions existing in the laboratories of the North Texas State University in Denton, Texas. HSUS Investigator Phil Steward joined with Weller in serving notice on the University that these conditions must change.

Recently, Scott has given several group presentations on the humane ethic to school groups and the patients and staff of a local hospital.

Weller and Phyllis Wright conducted a three day course for thirty animal control wardens in Houston. All participants agreed it was a huge success.



John J. Dommers



Burton M. Parks